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**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/997,801

Examiner

Tam (Jenny) Phan

Applicant(s)

LEDOUX ET AL.

Art Unit

2144

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 04/11/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-34.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 November 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Amendment received on 04/11/2005 has been entered. Claims 1, 4, 19, 25, 27, and 29 are currently amended. Claims 2-3, 5-18, 20-24, 26, 28, and 30-34 are previously presented.
2. Claims 1-34 are presented for examination.

***Priority***

3. No priority claims have been made.
4. The effective filing date for the subject matter defined in the pending claims in this application is 11/30/2001.

***Reasons for Allowance***

5. Claims 1-34 are allowed.
6. The claimed invention involves a method for maintaining synchronization of data stored on a server, where components of the data are discrete objects that are separately modifiable on clients that are coupled to the server over a network and wherein modification to the components of the data on the clients can be uploaded to the server, comprising the steps of: associating a version identifier with the data, said version identifier being incremented each time that a change to any component of the data occurs on the server; each time that a component of the data is modified on the server, assigning to the component the value of the version identifier that was current at the time the component was modified on the server, other of the plurality of components comprising the data, which were not then modified, retaining a version identifier previously assigned thereto; and detecting a proactive collision between a component of the data just downloaded to any client and a modified version of said component that was previously downloaded and modified by a user on said client, as a function of the values of version

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identifiers associated with the component downloaded and the modified version of the component, causing an indication of the proactive collision to be provided to the user, enabling the user to resolve the proactive collision.

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the limitation of assigning to the modified component the value of the data version identifier that was current at the time the component was modified on the server while other of the plurality of components comprising the data, which were not modified, retain their version identifier that was previously assigned to them (defined in the present specification per Page 3 line 26-Page 4 line 5 and Page 20 lines 6-24) was not taught or suggested by the prior art of record *in combination with the other limitations of the independent claims*. The limitation to assign version identifier was further explained in applicant's amendment filed 04/11/2005. See Remarks Page 15 lines 3-18.

8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### ***Response to Arguments***

9. Applicant's arguments, filed 04/11/2005, with respect to the pending claims have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection regarding the pending claims has been withdrawn.

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*Conclusion*

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tam (Jenny) Phan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3930. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on (571) 272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MARC D. THOMPSON  
**MARC THOMPSON**  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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June 23, 2005